

AUG 19 2016

EPA-REGION 10

US EPA  
ATTN: Harbor Comments  
805 SW Broadway  
Suite 500  
Portland, OR 97205

2488

I sell industrial land along the Willamette River, and I regularly use the river for recreation. I am concerned with the EPA's current plan to clean up the Willamette River. It does not make sense to spend \$1 billion dollars to dig up pollutants and possibly re-contaminate the surrounding areas, especially when there are more pressing priorities. We need an environmental plan that is less invasive, cheaper, and more flexible.

The current cleanup plan could cost over \$1 billion, which is not money well-spent, when there are other priorities such as improving schools, homelessness, and the city's infrastructure. Because taxpayers will have to pay more, we are taking away from these other important needs, when we are not even sure if this is the best way to clean up our environment. Furthermore, it is unacceptable to have the Port of Portland as a construction site potentially for decades. I personally would be less interested in visiting the Willamette River itself, as well as the businesses, shops, and restaurants on the river. The site could possibly close off traffic to businesses and recreational activities. This would be very damaging for local businesses. The EPA's plan would further harm the economy by potentially costing jobs, which would leave fewer opportunities for my kids to get jobs and stay in Portland.

The EPA has been working on this cleanup plan for a long time, spending tens and millions of dollars with no progress. We need to move forward with a solution with minimal negative impact. That said, the EPA should consider less invasive measures based on new information to clean up the river. It would be better to find a more flexible, less problematic solution that allows for local input. I have been a Portland resident my whole life. Portland residents know exactly where we're going to feel the impacts; therefore, we deserve a say in what happens to our river.

Sincerely,

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Portland, OR 97221